Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, The history of the South Hand Old Settlers Picnic can be traced back to written records authored by Thurza Robison and dated August 19, 1904; and,

Whereas, The tradition began with over 100 old settlers registering at the first picnic in 1904 in South Hand County, South Dakota, with the early day committees composed of area residents who organized the games, program, parade, horse events, and all the details for the picnic; and,

Whereas, Today, the South Hand Picnic draws visitors from coast-to-coast and has grown to include five generations of picnic goers that participate in an old fashioned day of family fun, which continues to include many of the original events; and,

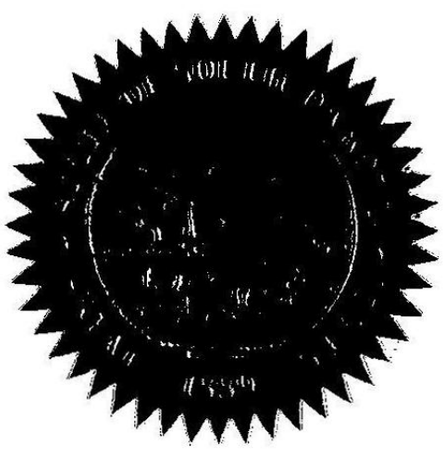
Whereas, Last year's picnic registered and honored 33 old settlers; and,

Whereas, The 2004 South Hand Old Settlers Picnic is scheduled to celebrate its 100th Anniversary on June 18, 2004, with all of the good wishes, fanfare, and celebration such a milestone warrants as this community endeavor has truly withstood the test of time:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim June 18, 2004, as

SOUTH HAND OLD SETTLERS PICNIC DAY

in South Dakota.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-sixth Day of May in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State